

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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50

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03

NEA-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 USIA-12 TRSE-00

MBFR-03 SAJ-01 NSC-10 SS-15 DODE-00 AEC-11 ACDA-19

ARA-11 RSR-01 /168 W

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R 221633 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1220

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 17253

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AS, MILI

SUBJECT: AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY VIEWS OF FRENCH RESPONSE TO WORLD
COURT DECISION

1. AUSTRALIAN DCM (PRICE) SAID THAT QUAI OFFICIALS HAD NOT BEEN FORTHCOMING CONCERNING THEIR POSSIBLE COURSE OF ACTION IN FACE OF A WORLD COURT DECISION AGAINST FRENCH NUCLEAR TESTING. HOWEVER, AUSTRALIANS HAD CONCLUDED THAT WITH JUNE 22 COURT DECISION INFAVOR AUSTRALIA (AND SIMILAR DECISION EXPECTED SOON ON NEW ZEALAND CASE) GOF WOULD NOW RELEASE WHITE PAPER IT HAD PREPARED SOMETIME AGO. WHITE PAPER, AUSTRALIANS BELIEVE, WILL EXPRESS VIEW THAT GOF CONSIDERS THAT GOF WORLD COURT HEARING OF CASE WAS NOT APPROPRIATE AND DECISION IS NOT RELEVANT. PRICE THOUGHT THE JUNE 21 US/ USSR NUCLEAR AGREEMENTS WOULD COMPLICATE GOF EFFORTS TO JUSTIFY THE TESTS TO WORLD OPINION, BUT THAT GOF WOULD, NEVERTHELESS, QUIETLY PROCEED TO HOLD TESTS IN THE ATMO-SPHERE. GOF WOULD PROBABLY INCREASE THE PRIORITY OF DEVELOPING UNDERGROUND TESTS, BUT DIFFICULT TECHNICAL PROBLEMS MADE THIS A FAIRLY LONG TERM SOLUTION.

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2. PRICE CONCLUDED THAT JOBERT SPEECH TO THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY MADE IT CLEAR THAT FRANCE WAS DETERMINED TO CONTINUE EFFORTS TO HAVE A NUCLEAR DETERRENT AND THAT NO BASIC CHANGE IN FRENCH DEFENSE THINKING AS CONCERNS NUCLEAR CAPABILITY WAS LIKELY TO TAKE PLACE SOON DEPITE OTHER SECURITY DEVELOPMENTS AFFECTING EUROPE. GDS
IRWI

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NNNNMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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30 JUN 2005

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To: CANBERRA
EUR
SECSTATE WASHDC
THE HAGUE
WELLINGTON
Type: TE
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